Box #54
Rio Grande City

FREER, TX 78357
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U.S. POSTAGE
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The Adair Family
~~Box~~ 789 West 6th St.
Claremont Calif 91711

Nov. 17, 1967

Dear Family,

We're drivig up to San Antonio and Austin today, on a much business and some pleasure trip. We'll pick up the posters and covers for Sons of Zapata. I haven't seen the proof for the posters yet and am very nervous and excited. If it is a bust, and it might be, it will be a real disaster. But if it looks tough, if they did a good job, wow, it will really be great. It will solve my Christmas present to all my friends and will make a lot of money for the farm worker press. Which of course we de perately need. And we also need to make the rounds of bookstores in the area trying to get them to take some of our stuff. If we can hit the Christmas rush, we can really pick up some coin. I also want to hit bookstores in the Bay area as soon as I get back. And then those in L.A., though I'm not really familiar with the book-store scene in L.A. We'll probably take an add in the L.A. Free Press for the poster. Could you please send me a copy so I'll have the adrates and column size and address?

Gil Padilla is back after over ~~12~~ two weeks in Delano and California. The officers of the Union had a summit meeting. Gil says they all bitched at Dolores because she meddles so in everyone's business. Which is true. But they were also jealous because her job has been so successfully carried out (writing the contracts, negotiating them, relations with the ranch committees of workers at each ranch) while almost every other department in the Union is suffering from battle fatigue after 15 weeks of the Guimarra strike; or disorganization and failure (ie. Texas). I think the decision is to stick it out in Texas. So I'll probably stay. Gill has put on a little weight, is looking better, and got a good rest (away from his family.). Their return is up in the air, so they may not be with me. But I sure would hate to have to make the trip alone. I may have to advertise for a rider.

I told Kappa that beautiful though her offer was, I have a hard time thinking of Christmas away from the family. I'll be in California anyway. I'm puzzled as to why she doesn't want to come home, but of course themyoung skirts is hard to fathom. I do hope she comes home. But I'm afraid I wouldn't consider going to Boston. It is strange how now I consider Delano as home, even though I am a resident of Texas (I registered to vote here), and have no home in Delano, and my family is in Claremont. But Delano is just the scene that I am plugged into now. And luckily it is close to Claremont, so I can have the best of

both worlds... all special occasions in Claremont buy my vacation in Delano. Rio Grande is so overwhelmingly lonely that there are no vacations here. I don't know what I'll do for Thanksgiving, which has always been a special and festive holiday for me, every year in the past. In Delano, there were always turkeys and a big dinner, and festive things, usually a special mass. Here we might luck out with a chicken and fresh tortillas and beans at the Sernas or Padillas. Tamales for Christmas. Alfredo has family in Monterrey, poor but not destitute, I gather, and will go down there, be surrounded by cousins and parties and things like that at Christmas. But if I didn't have to go back anyway, I think I would make a special trip just be home at Christmas.

Congratulations on the AFT! I think one of the things that brough sense to a lot of teachers was the Free Speech movement at Berkeley. Regardless of how the teachers there reacted to the students, they found that they were comparatively powerless to deal with the Administration and make their views known. The same thing happened in the loyalty oath uproad in the early 1950's. And it has happened continuously at Berkeley ever since. But it will be a strange kind of Union, once it really gets going, because I gather that the major issues facin g teachers are not wages but conditions, treatment by patronizing or stupid administrators, and the way the schools and colleges are being run. Of course teachers, like everyone else, usually want more money. But I think the big issues you'll come up against will be conditions and the desire to have more of a voice in how your lives and jobs will be run.

The paper continues to make progress, is cracking into new areas in Texas, circulation slowly expanding, but I think we're finding good new people, and some dependable help at last. Alfredo de Avila is finally turning out to be a working, learning the ropes, has been a big help to me on the last two issues of the paper. I would never have gone ahead with the poster without his help. But he is able to shoulder just enough of the grub work so that I have time to do some planning and writing. I'm hopeful that I'll have two articles this month, one in the Texas Observer and one in THE NATION. (if Carey McWilliams comes through). I'll get out a newsletter for the Union next week. And I'll also be writing the next issue of the Malcriado and the Christmas edition that we hope to put out of Delano. Our budget is so limited, and our time and staff, but I really would like to do an extra special good job. Out of paper. Much love... I'm counting the days until I'll be home

Jill